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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORT

as of

March 1, 1942

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

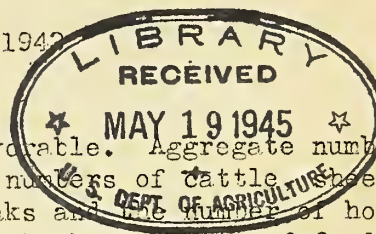
CROP REPORTING BOARD

Washington, D. C.,

March 10, 1942

3:00 P.M. (E.T.)

GENERAL CROP REPORT AS OF MARCH 1, 1942



Prospects for crop and livestock production continue favorable. Aggregate numbers in flocks and herds are the largest for all years. The numbers of cattle, sheep, and poultry on hand are each slightly above previous peaks and the number of hogs may exceed the previous peak by the end of the year. With the quantity of feed needed for work stock still declining, supplies of grain and roughage on hand in most areas are still large in proportion to the number of animals to be fed. The grass cover in range areas improved materially last year and present prospects appear favorable in nearly all the range States. In the Great Plains States, where crop losses from the repeated droughts of the 1930-39 decade were most severe, there has been substantial replenishment of subsoil moisture reserves and only limited southwestern areas are in need of rain at present.

Abnormally mild weather during most of February in some northern States, particularly in the area surrounding the upper Mississippi Valley, was outstandingly favorable for milk and egg production in a number of the most important producing States. On the other hand, February was unusually cold in the lower South and in much of the country west of the Rockies and this was reflected in the condition of livestock. For the country as a whole the March 1 reports on milk production per cow and egg production per hen averaged between 1 and 2 percent higher than on the same date last year and exceeded the previous records for March 1, thus continuing the high rate of production for the season that has been in evidence since the middle of 1940.

Prospects for winter and early spring vegetables in the South and California continue generally favorable. Acreages are being well maintained or increased and good yields per acre are expected. The crop of early cabbage is expected to be exceptionally large, current reports indicating about 840 million pounds, which would be more than 6 pounds per capita for the entire population. The acreage in early tomatoes is about a third larger than that harvested last year.

Citrus fruits suffered locally from high winds in Florida and from cold weather in California but losses do not appear to have been serious except for a reduction of 10 percent in prospects for lemons. The total orange and grapefruit crops are expected to be nearly equal to the large crops of last season.

CITRUS FRUITS: Total orange production for the 1941-42 marketing season is now placed at 83,914,000 boxes, compared with 84,082,000 boxes produced last season (1940-41), and 75,667,000 boxes in 1939-40.

Production of early and midseason oranges in Florida (exclusive of tangerines) is placed at 15,400,000 boxes. Production of these varieties in 1940-41 was 15,900,000 boxes. The Florida tangerine crop for 1941-42 totaled 2,100,000 boxes compared with the 1940-41 crop of 2,700,000 boxes. The Florida Valencia orange crop for harvest during the coming spring and summer is indicated to be 12,700,000 boxes--slightly larger than the 1940-41 production of 12,500,000 boxes of this variety. February weather in Florida was relatively favorable for citrus fruits. Light frosts occurred on a number of occasions but citrus crops were not damaged. For a few days beginning with March 1, high winds, which were prevalent in some areas during that time, "whipped" trees rather violently and blew off some fruit--mostly early and midseason oranges, and seeded varieties of grapefruit. Losses from this cause were not extensive, however.

The California crop of navel and miscellaneous varieties of oranges is estimated at 20,496,000 boxes, compared with last season's production (1940-41) of 19,472,000

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boxes. California Valencia production is indicated to be 29,520,000 boxes, compared with 1940-41 Valencia crop of 30,006,000 boxes in that State. Freezing temperatures prevailed in some California citrus areas on several occasions during February, with considerable damage occurring on the nights of the fourteenth and fifteenth in southern California--chiefly in San Bernardino, Riverside, and eastern Los Angeles Counties. These frosts, however, did not reduce the total crop of any citrus fruits except lemons, indicated production of which is down 10 percent. Navels were damaged in some localities but all, or nearly all, frost-damaged fruit probably will be utilized for processing. No serious injury to Valencias is indicated at this time. A much needed rain occurred over citrus areas in southern California on February 21, which, though not sufficiently prolonged to provide ample moisture for a long period of time, was extremely beneficial to both trees and fruit.

The Texas orange crop for the 1941-42 season is estimated at 2,900,000 boxes, compared with 2,750,000 boxes produced last season (1940-41). Arizona orange production is placed at 600,000 boxes, compared with last season's crop of 500,000 boxes.

The United States grapefruit crop is indicated to be 41,540,000 boxes. Production in 1940-41 totaled 43,033,000 boxes, and the 1939-40 production was 35,192,000 boxes. The Florida grapefruit crop is estimated at 21,400,000 boxes--13 percent smaller than last season's (1940-41) production of 24,600,000 boxes in that State. High winds in some sections of the Florida citrus belt during February blew some "seeded" varieties of grapefruit from the trees, but losses were not serious for the State as a whole.

Texas grapefruit production for 1941-42 is placed at 15,100,000 boxes--9 percent larger than the 1940-41 crop of 13,800,000 boxes. Ample rainfall occurred in Texas citrus areas during February, and trees are in excellent condition. Grapefruit production in Arizona is expected to total 3,000,000 boxes for the current marketing season. Last year's production in that State totaled 2,650,000 boxes. Though freezing temperatures prevailed on several occasions in Arizona citrus areas during February, frost damage to citrus has not been significant. The 1941-42 California grapefruit crop is estimated at 2,040,000 boxes--1,065,000 boxes in the Desert Valleys, and 975,000 boxes in other (summer-harvest) areas of the State. In 1940-41 production in that State totaled 1,983,000 boxes, with 960,000 boxes coming from Desert Valleys and 1,023,000 from other areas.

The California lemon crop for the 1941-42 season's harvest is now indicated to be 12,760,000 boxes. This indicated crop is 10 percent less than was indicated on February 1, due to losses from freezing temperatures on the nights of February 14-15 in the southern counties. This reduction in indicated production is expected to show up in late summer and early fall pickings.

MILK PRODUCTION: Although the seasonal increase during February was less than usual, milk production per cow continued at record levels, with the March 1 reported figure more than 1 percent above the previous high for the date set last year. The number of milk cows on farms, which has been increasing steadily, is now more than 3 percent larger than a year ago, so total milk production on March 1 appears to have been 4 to 5 percent greater than at the same time last year. Per capita production for the date was about 2 percent higher than the previous record March 1 figure established in 1932.

Continued liberal feeding appears to have been influential in maintaining the relatively high level of production, and in the important dairy areas of the Western Lake Region, February weather was relatively favorable. In Wisconsin and New York, production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents was substantially higher than on any previous March 1. In most of the other Northern States east of the Great Plains, production per cow was not far below March 1 records. In the North Atlantic States, the percentage of milk cows milked on March 1 averaged higher than previously reported for the date in the 18-year period for which records are available, and in the East North Central States the percentage milked this March 1 has been exceeded only once.

In the Gulf Coast States, unseasonably low temperatures have slowed pasture development, and rainy weather has been relatively unfavorable for milk cows. Production per cow milked in this area on March 1 was somewhat above the average of recent years, but the low percentage of milk cows in milk reduced the average output per milk cow in herd considerably below average for March 1. In the Western group of States, the unusually cold weather during February resulted in much less than the usual seasonal increase in milk production per cow and the reported March 1 figure was 4 percent lower than that last year. However, the level of production was higher than on the same date of any year prior to 1941.

For the country as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 13.95 pounds on March 1 compared to 13.77 pounds on the same date a year ago and the 1931-40 average of 12.75 pounds for the date. In these herds, 67.5 percent of the milk cows were reported in production on this date, about the same as in the past 3 years, but above that in any other year back through 1925.

EGG PRODUCTION: The rate of egg production shown by sample farm flocks on March 1 averaged 44.6 eggs per 100 layers, the highest March 1 rate of record. It was 2 percent above the previous high of a year ago and 15 percent above the 10-year (1931-40) March average. The aggregate of the first of the month layings from January to March inclusive, is the largest of record for the period--4 percent larger than the previous high of last year. Although the weather was unusually cold in the Rocky Mountain area it was quite favorable in the North Central States where almost half of the country's eggs are produced.

The rate of lay also reached new high records for March 1 in the North Atlantic, East North Central and West North Central States but it was below the rate of a year ago in the rest of the country. The rate was higher than a year ago by 5 percent in the West North Central, 3 percent in the East North Central and 1 percent in the North Atlantic States. It was below a year ago by 4 percent in the West and 1 percent in the South Atlantic and South Central States.

The 10-year March 1 average rate of lay was exceeded in all parts of the country. Increases above the 10-year average were 26 percent in the West North Central, 15 percent in the East North Central, 13 percent in the North Atlantic, 9 percent in the South Central, 6 percent in the South Atlantic and 5 percent in the Western States.

CROP REPORTING BOARD

<p>This report has been previously issued by the Agricultural Statistics Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service, which Division has been transferred to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by Executive Order No. 9069 of February 23, 1942.</p>
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CITRUS FRUITS

Crop and State	Production ^{1/}			
	Average 1930-39	1939	1940	Indicated 1941

Thousand boxes

ORANGES:

California, all	37,198	44,425	49,478	50,016
Valencias	21,795	26,904	30,006	29,520
Navels and misc.	15,803	17,521	19,472	20,496
Florida, all	21,290	28,000	31,100	30,200
Early and midseason	^{2/} 12,521	15,600	15,900	15,400
Valencias	^{2/} 8,721	10,000	12,500	12,700
Tangerines	2,350	2,400	2,700	2,100
Texas	1,157	2,560	2,750	2,900
Arizona	252	520	500	600
Alabama	65	75	1	5
Mississippi	46	59	(3)	1
Louisiana	275	228	253	192
7 States ^{4/}	60,283	75,667	84,082	83,914

GRAPEFRUIT:

Florida, all	14,760	15,900	24,600	21,400
Seedless	^{2/} 5,250	6,500	8,400	8,800
Other	^{2/} 10,393	9,400	16,200	12,600
Texas	6,350	14,400	13,800	15,100
Arizona	1,505	2,900	2,650	3,000
California, all	1,768	1,992	1,983	2,040
Desert Valleys	789	1,087	960	1,065
Other	979	905	1,023	975
4 States ^{4/}	24,383	35,192	43,053	41,540

LEMONS:

California ^{4/}	8,815	11,983	17,099	12,780
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LIMES:

Florida	37	95	80	^{5/} 120
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^{1/} Relates to crop from bloom of year shown. In California the picking season usually extends from about October 1 to December 31 of the following year. In other States the season begins about September 1. For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities donated to charity and/or eliminated on account of market conditions.

^{2/} Short-time average.

^{3/} Failure reported.

^{4/} Net content of boxes varies. In California and Arizona the approximate average for oranges is 70 lb. net and grapefruit 60 lb.; in Florida and other States, oranges 90 lb. and grapefruit 80 lb.; California lemons, about 76 lb. net.

^{5/} December 1 indicated production.

MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW 1/

State	Average	1940	1941	1942
and Div.	1931-40	1940	1941	1942
Pounds				
Me.	12.4	13.2	13.5	13.1
N.H.	14.4	14.9	13.5	15.0
Vt.	13.5	14.1	14.0	14.8
Mass.	17.2	17.3	17.9	18.0
Conn.	17.0	17.2	17.1	18.4
N.Y.	15.5	17.0	16.7	18.0
N.J.	18.3	19.3	19.1	20.6
Pa.	16.2	16.9	16.9	17.7
N.ATL.	15.81	16.75	16.56	17.71
Ohio	14.2	14.7	14.7	14.9
Ind.	12.9	13.8	13.8	14.0
Ill.	14.1	15.1	15.2	15.2
Mich.	16.3	17.0	18.0	17.3
Wis.	15.9	16.8	17.2	18.2
E.N.CENT	14.94	15.76	16.07	16.56
Minn.	16.9	18.7	18.9	18.5
Iowa	14.2	16.0	15.7	15.6
Mo.	8.6	9.2	9.1	9.4
N.Dak.	11.7	14.2	14.8	14.1
S.Dak.	10.8	12.7	12.0	12.5
Nebr.	12.9	13.8	13.5	12.9
Kans.	13.2	13.4	14.4	14.3
W.N.CENT	13.06	14.65	14.55	14.24
Md.	13.4	15.6	15.4	15.4
Va.	9.5	10.0	10.4	10.8
W.Va.	8.5	8.2	8.4	9.4
N.C.	9.9	10.7	10.6	10.7
S.C.	9.3	9.6	9.8	9.7
Ca.	8.1	8.5	8.6	8.1
S.ATL.	9.66	10.38	10.47	10.89
Ky.	9.2	9.6	9.9	10.2
Tenn.	8.2	8.6	8.9	8.8
Ala.	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.6
Miss.	6.3	5.4	5.8	6.1
Ark.	7.0	7.0	7.7	7.1
Okla.	9.5	9.5	9.7	9.2
Tex.	8.4	7.8	7.9	7.7
S.CENT.	8.09	8.03	8.46	8.34
Mont.	11.7	12.2	13.5	12.1
Idaho	15.7	16.4	16.7	15.4
Wyo.	11.3	12.6	12.7	12.0
Colo.	12.8	13.7	14.6	13.7
Wash.	15.4	16.2	16.7	16.6
Oreg.	13.8	14.7	15.2	15.0
Calif.	17.7	17.3	18.4	18.1
WEST	14.22	15.19	15.88	15.29
U.S.	12.75	13.62	13.77	13.95

1/ Averages represent the reported daily milk production of herds kept by reporters divided by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry) in these herds. Figures for New England States are based on combined returns from crop and special dairy reporters. Figures for other States, regions, and U. S. are based on returns from crop reporters only. The regional averages are based in part on records of less important dairy States not shown separately, as follows: North Atlantic, Rhode Island; South Atlantic, Delaware and Florida; South Central, Louisiana; Western, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Nevada.

EGGS PRODUCED PER 100 LAYERS, MARCH 1 1/

State	: Av. 1931-40	: 1940	: 1941	: 1942
	Number			
Me.	48.1	52.5	54.6	52.6
N.H.	48.7	50.0	51.6	56.9
Vt.	45.0	52.8	48.4	51.5
Mass	50.1	54.3	58.5	55.2
R.I.	45.1	51.4	57.1	55.0
Conn.	48.5	55.0	54.5	53.1
N.Y.	41.6	46.4	46.6	47.9
N.J.	41.3	46.1	50.0	47.7
Pa.	42.6	45.8	46.9	48.3
N. ATL.	43.3	47.4	48.5	49.1
Ohio	40.0	42.0	43.7	45.2
Ind.	41.2	43.8	44.8	46.3
Ill.	34.7	36.1	39.2	39.4
Mich.	37.7	42.5	44.4	44.3
Wis.	37.7	43.1	42.2	44.9
E. N. CENT.	38.0	40.9	42.5	43.6
Minn.	30.4	38.9	38.0	44.7
Iowa	31.0	33.9	37.2	39.2
Mo.	37.8	35.7	43.2	42.5
N. Dak.	21.6	28.5	29.4	35.7
S. Dak.	25.3	28.8	32.2	39.7
Nebr.	36.0	36.5	44.0	44.9
Kans.	40.9	40.7	43.4	47.9
W. N. CENT.	33.7	35.7	40.4	42.6
Del.	41.5	47.0	50.1	50.3
Md.	40.6	45.1	45.2	44.0
Va.	42.0	46.3	45.9	46.6
W.Va.	41.4	41.0	41.0	43.7
N.C.	44.1	47.2	48.2	46.7
S.C.	43.6	45.7	44.8	41.4
Ga.	40.5	37.1	42.0	40.7
Fla.	49.9	52.2	50.6	52.0
S. ATL.	42.5	44.7	45.5	45.2
Ky.	37.3	35.5	42.3	41.6
Tenn.	36.5	34.3	42.1	40.1
Ala.	43.2	38.0	45.8	44.9
Miss.	40.5	32.5	42.3	44.1
Ark.	39.2	36.0	45.0	44.4
La.	40.8	39.2	43.7	42.3
Okla.	42.1	41.2	46.6	47.5
Tex.	44.9	45.4	48.6	47.7
S. CENT.	41.3	39.5	45.5	44.9
Mont.	31.9	38.3	43.4	38.0
Idaho	39.1	42.4	46.9	41.6
Wyo.	34.5	38.4	45.5	40.9
Colo.	37.5	40.7	44.5	36.2
N.Mex.	41.4	46.4	44.5	38.8
Ariz.	47.8	55.3	53.7	51.5
Utah	46.2	47.4	53.3	48.0
Nev.	44.3	53.4	45.0	49.0
Wash.	45.2	47.0	50.8	50.0
Oreg.	46.5	49.2	52.1	52.5
Calif.	49.0	52.0	49.7	49.9
WEST	44.9	48.0	49.1	47.1
U. S.	38.9	40.7	43.9	44.6

1/ As reported for farm flocks of less than 400 layers.

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